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**Simultaneous Interpreting from the Perspective of
Information Theory**

信息论视角下的同声传译

陈巧玲

指导教师姓名: 雷天放 副教授

专 业 名 称: 英语语言文学

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摘 要

本文基于口译的交际特征和信息传递的特点,将信息论引入口译,从信息论的角度分析同声传译(同传)中的信息处理,旨在研究更好的同传信息传递模型和方法。该论文除引言和结论外共四章。

第一章首先介绍信息论中主要的概念(信息量、信道、冗余、反馈)和几种传播模式,然后回顾并分析了以往信息论在翻译中的应用。最早是奈达将信息论引入翻译领域,此后一些国内学者就信息论在翻译领域的应用展开研究,但很少人提及信息论在同传中的应用。

第二章围绕同声传译的特点和标准阐述了信息论在同传中运用的必要性。同声传译是一种交际。作者提出译员在同声传译中受到时间和信息处理能力的限制,并借助 Gile 的“认知负荷模式”(Effort Model)阐明信息处理能力的局限。接着分析同传的重要标准是“信”和“达”。作者基于信息的处理和顺利传递在信息论和同传中都十分重要,从而建立同传和信息论的关系,提出有必要把信息论应用在同传中。

第三部分阐述信息论在同传中的具体应用。作者指出对于同传而言以往信息论模式和 Gile 模型的优点和缺陷。其中有些模型是单向的,有些没有考虑到口译的特点。本文的创新之处在于作者综合同传和信息论的特点,设计出一个适用于同声传译信息传递的新模型,提出用“平衡翻译”的方法处理信息问题,并运用实证研究分析如何处理主要信息和次要信息,以及主要信息的降格策略问题。同声传译中的信息可分为 1. 主要信息(主要是听觉信息,包含纵向的框架信息和横向的主要信息) 2. 次要信息(主要是视觉信息,包含幻灯信息、文本信息和个人信息) 3. 冗余(冗余分为句法冗余,语义

冗余， 修辞冗余和文化冗余) 4. 噪音 译员要能够过滤噪音，提取有效信息。以上不同的信息要素各有不同的处理办法。最后作者还分析了信息论中另一个重要的概念即“反馈”在同传中的重要作用。反馈分为内部反馈和外部反馈。

第四章主要针对同声传译的教学提出建议。探讨如何通过内部反馈和外部反馈训练信息“包装”，训练如何灵活运用幻灯信息。此外，提出教材应更注重真实性、视听多维化、多领域性。

总而言之，全文从信息论的角度出发，围绕同传的特点和标准，提出了处理信息的新模型和新策略。

关键词： 信息；同声传译；交际；

Synopsis

In this thesis, concepts and models of information theory are applied to theory and practice of simultaneous interpreting. The application is based on the assumption that interpreting is a communication in nature. The thesis focuses on how to classify and process information in interpreting from the perspective of information theory. The purpose of the thesis is to put forward a new information model and corresponding interpreting strategies in SI. The thesis is divided into four chapters, excluding an introduction and a conclusion.

In Chapter One, the author introduces the main concepts of communication models in information theory. The main concepts include communication load, channel capacity, noise, redundancy and feedback. There are several communication models like H. D. Lasswell's model, C. E. Shannon and W. Weaver's model, G. Gerbner's model, T. M. Newcomb's model, W. L. Schramm's model and Westley-Maclean's model. Then the author reviews the application of information theory in translation study. With the introduction of information theory in the studies of translation pioneered by Eugene Nida, some Chinese scholars have followed suit and done some research on application of information theory to translation field. However, few people have mentioned the application of information theory in SI.

Chapter Two is devoted to the description of characteristics and criteria of simultaneous interpreting. SI is defined as a mode of information communication. The interpreter has to face the time constraint and effort constraint. Daniel Gile's effort model is a good illustration of the effort constraint for interpreters in SI. Then the author analyzes the two criteria of SI: faithfulness and expressiveness.

Since information convey is vital in both information theory and SI, the interpreter may gain some insights and coping strategies in applying information theory to SI.

Chapter Three deals with the application of information theory in SI. The author first outlines advantages and weaknesses of communication models and Gile's communication model of interpreting. Next the author designs a new information model of SI and proposes a new way of interpreting: balanced interpreting. In SI, information can be classified into primary information, secondary information, redundancy and noise. The primary information is verbal message consisting of vertical primary information and horizontal primary information. The secondary information is mainly visual information, consisting of slide information, text information and personal information. An empirical research is used to illustrate how to handle primary information and secondary information, especially the downgrading strategy for primary information. And then the author elaborates on the application of redundancy to SI. Redundancy is divided into syntactic redundancy, semantic redundancy, rhetorical redundancy and cultural redundancy. To convey the information successfully, amplification of redundancy and omission of redundancy are both needed in simultaneous interpreting. Moreover, interpreter can hear all kinds of noises, but he must have the ability of "filtering". When interpreter works, he needs to select the useful information sources and get rid of noise. The last but not the least, feedback is a vital part in communication, which makes SI a circular communication. Feedback is divided into external feedback and internal feedback.

In Chapter Four, the author elaborates on the pedagogical implications for SI training. Three aspects are under discussion: the package training of the

interpreter through internal feedback and external feedback, the training of using slide information flexibly and real audio-visual teaching materials with different topics.

In the conclusion, the author points out the importance of applying information theory to simultaneous interpreting. The author hopes that the new model and new interpreting strategies she has developed in this thesis will be of some help to the interpreter trainees and their trainers.

Key Words: Information; Simultaneous interpreting (SI); Communication.

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